

Greetings from San Quentin Prison!

We are very excited and proud to announce the August 29<sup>th</sup> international release of **Live Aus San Quentin** by author Buzzy Martin through the German division of Random House. He is the Renowned San Francisco Bay Area Musician, mentor, youth advocate, and author of Don't Shoot! I'm The Guitar Man (Penguin-Berkley Group USA) which is the raw and moving account of Buzzy Martin's time teaching inmates music at San Quentin State Prison where he experienced everything from fear to the human connection created by sharing the transcendent power of music.

The book is an inside look at the inner workings of a music program with San Quentin inmates. The overall message of "**Education Not Incarceration**" is related by their messages for youth at risk. Buzzy's quest to bring the workings of music to inmates is highlighted by his ability to sense human emotions where others see uncaring criminals and bring to light aspects of prison life back to the "throw-a-way kids" Buzzy works with in juvenile hall.

*"I like Buzzy Martin's book so much I made it required reading in addition to a textbook in my graduate course, entitled Advanced Criminology. I am passing the book on to new faculty members for use in their correction classes."* **Steve A. Egger, Ph.D. Associate Professor of Criminology, University of Houston Clear Lake , Board Member Innocence Project of Texas.**

*"I believe in his message so strongly that his book has been adopted as a required text for my correctional counseling course and administration of justice course."* **Mike Grabowski, Professor, Administration of Justice, Santa Rosa Junior College, President of CAAJE**

*"After hearing about "Don't Shoot! I'm The Guitar Man" I wanted to get a copy of the book and to meet Buzzy. I found it enlightening and it struck a chord with me since we offer a corrections program at West Los Angeles College. His approach to using music got my attention as a college instructor giving me new insights in how to use his book in our POPP program at the Los Angeles Police Academy."* **Charles "Buck" Stapleton, Vice-President, CAAJE Professor-Chair, Behavioral Social Science Div., West Los Angeles College, Los Angeles Police Academy.**

*"I was very moved by Buzzy's book. Such an unusual tale and a very risky one, but while reading this I felt his journey and his passion to bring music to people who most have forgotten or would not even care about at all. It shows the human spirit does make a difference if used in a positive way, even to the most hardened people. We are all just people sharing time on this rock called Earth. Buzzy made a difference. If we all did, maybe it would be a better world. Check this book out."* **Steve Lukather, five-time Grammy Award-winning guitarist, singer, songwriter, arranger, and record producer**

"Buzzy Martin is my hero for bravely going into San Quentin Prison and teaching music there. I have played in prisons and visited friends serving time there and I know what a nightmare life in prison is. For Buzzy to bring some light into such a dreary environment with his guitar and love of music he has brought hope and has changed men's lives. Buzzy tells his story and a great story it is-full of compassion and humor, too." **Charlie Musselwhite, six-time W.C. Handy Award winner, and Lifetime Achievement recipient from the Monterey Blues Festival**

Buzzy wasn't the first to enter San Quentin State Prison's walls with a guitar— Johnny Cash cut his classic album there on February 24, 1969—with a young 22 year old inmate Merle Haggard sitting in the front row. Buzzy literally transformed lives on a weekly basis offering a few moments of true joy and healing in a world where those things are at a premium, if they exist at all. Music hath charms, they say, to soothe the savage beast, and Martin's tale is a witness to that. Don't Shoot! I'm the Guitar Man is a story you'd never want to live, but you can't stop reading it, either. Buzzy Martin is more than the guitar man he is the messenger for those of us who should be listening!

For all media info, speaking engagements and general questions contact: **Anissa Wardell**, by phone 435-657-0967 or email her at [anissa@thepublicistsassistant.com](mailto:anissa@thepublicistsassistant.com).

Click on [Live Aus San Quentin](http://www.LiveAusSanQuentin.com) for the German version of Don't Shoot! I'm The Guitar Man.

